

Message Text

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SUBJECT: THE STAR COLUMN ON US REACTION TO QUEBEC ELECTION

1. IN A SPECIAL OPINION COLUMN PRINTED ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE NOVEMBER 29 TORONTO STAR, BOGDAN KIPLING, UNDER A WASHINGTON DATELINE, REVIEWS AN ALLEGED AMERICAN LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CANADA AND THE QUEBEC SITUATION. THE ARTICLE "PARTI QUEBECOIS VICTORY HASN'T UPSET THE US -- YET" STRAINS TO MAKE TWO OPPOSITE POINTS, THAT AMERICANS REALLY DO NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT CANADA BUT, BECAUSE OF THE QUEBEC SITUATION, WILL BE RELUCTANT TO INVEST MORE IN QUEBEC.

2. KIPLING QUOTES SEVERAL ECONOMISTS WHO MORE OR LESS TAKE THE LINE THAT NO ONE WILL BE TOO UPSET IF THE NEW GOVERNMENT LIVES BY THE RULES. KIPLING CONTINUES WITH A RATHER STRANGE COMPARISON OF HOW THE US PROTESTED THE SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIALIZATION OF THE POTASH MINES AND THE LACK OF ACTION FOLLOWING THE PQ VICTORY. "BUT QUEBEC'S NEW RADICAL GOVERNMENT WHICH OPENLY THREATENS THE INTEGRITY OF CANADA IS SUPPOSED TO MEAN LITTLE. AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND MONEY LENDERS WHO WANT TO WAIT AND SEE OR CLAIM 'SO WHAT' ARE NOT VERY CONVINCING."

3. THE COLUMNIST ACCUSES GEORGE BALL IN HIS NEW BOOK "DIPLOMACY FOR A CROWDED WORLD" BECAUSE OF A STATEMENT "IN
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NORTH AMERICA, THE RISING EMPHASIS ON THE DISTINCTIVE RIGHTS

AND ATTRIBUTES OF THE QUEBECOIS MENACES THE INTEGRITY OF THE
CANADAIN NATION." OF NOT GRASPONG THAT CANADA "IS MADE UP OF
TWO DISTINCT FOUNDING NATIONS." "BUT THE UPSHOT OF IGNORANCE
AND UNPREPAREDNESS WILL BE THE DRAINING OF MONEY FROM QUEBEC
AND A DEEPENING OF THE DESPAIR THAT BROUGHT THE SEPARATISTS
TO POWER.IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, THE ECONOMIC STAGNATION WILL
AFFECT THE REWT OF CANADA AND MAKE THE PARTI QUEBECOIS EVEN
MORE READICAL. THAT, IN THIS VICIOUS CIRCLE, AMERICANS WILL
BE RELUCTANT TO INVEST MORE IN QUEBEC CAN BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED.
AND, CONSIDERING THAT CANADA MAY YET BE 'BANGLADESHED,' WHO CAN
BLAME THEM."
DIGGINS

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